Third World Congress on Environment Management

3563. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of Third World Congress on Environment Management, organised by the World Environment Foundation, was held in collaboration with the Ministry in Simla in the middle of June, 2001; and

(b) if so, what are the details of decisions taken at the meet?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The meeting of Third World Congress on Environment Management was not held in collaboration with this Ministry. However, it is learnt that several recommendations covering policy issues, market instrument, corporate social responsibility, legal framework, financing, technology transfer, energy from waste, action against ozone depleting substances, industrial health and monitoring of programme implementation have been made in the Congress. These include:

— Development of a national policy* and strategy on sustainable development & its implementation.

— Certification of ISO 14000 by industries.

— Development of Himalayan Policy for integrated development of mountain region.

— Harmonization of global environmental standards.

— Financing of environmental programmes through international funding agencies like GEF, Eco-Invest of European Union.

Transfer of Adivasi land in Chhattisgarh

† 3564. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the facts regarding transfer of Adivasi land in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether Government have asked the Chhattisgarh Government to enact legislation to check transfer of Adivasi land;

(c) what are the details regarding Adivasis in Jashpur district of the State whose land is under illegal possession, till today; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government have directed the State Government to intimate the latest position regarding transfer and reversion of Adivasi land; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Patta of forest land to tribals

3565. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided in principal to issue Patta of forest land to the tribals for housing purpose, by dereserving the forest land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many tribal families are likely to be benefited under the said scheme and by when?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, no forest land is normally diverted for any non site specific activity like construction of residential or dwelling houses.

However, there is a provision for regularising such pre-1980 encroachments in respect of which the State Governments had already taken a decision prior to the enactment of the Act to regularise the encroachments, based on certain eligibility criteria fixed at that point of time, but could not implement their decision either wholly or partially before the enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Approval to M.P. Forestry Action Plan

† 3566. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Forestry Action Plan of Madhya Pradesh has been sent to the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests for approval;

(b) if so, by when, the same would be approved; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.